



315 N. Main Street New City, NY 10956  
(845) 634-0951/Tel. (845) 634-7704/Fax

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## FUNDING COMMITMENT DECISION APPEAL

March 12, 2008

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

CC: 02-6

**Re: Form 471 Application Number: 580148**  
**Funding Request Numbers: 1606441, 1627856, 1618930**  
**Funding Year 2007: 07/01/2007 – 06/30/2008**  
**Billed Entity Number: 11295**

This is a letter of appeal of "denied" funding requested for the above FRNs.

Hebrew Academy has completed a 2.5 million dollar renovation of our building. We are confident that we are establishing an educational institution to meet the learning needs of students throughout the twenty-first century. Attached to this appeal are picture support of the size and scope of our institution. To meet our technology plan and our educational vision we require the items for which we are requesting funding.

FRN 1606441 was denied due to "unable to demonstrate that sufficient hardware was secured to make effective use of discounts" We are confident that we have hardware that justifies these internal connections funding request. We requested 284 data drops for 14 classrooms, a library, a science lab, computer lab and student lounge. This will enable students to have computers facing the back that they can access for a wide range of educational purposes. We anticipate having computers in each classroom and a full complement of computers in the library, computer lab, and student lounge. These data drops will ensure student access. In the meantime, we have laptop computers on carts that will enable teachers to move from classroom to classroom while students become comfortable in their homeroom. Before June 2008 we will have 56 computers available for our students and anticipate acquiring additional computers at this rate. However, securing funding will enable us to justify these purchases as they will be plug and ready. We are confident that our funding request is practical and appropriate to our educational vision and our technology plan.

FRN 162786 and 1618930 were denied due to "not justified as cost effective". We are much attuned to budgetary issues and our vision is far reaching. With a large investment in preparing our institution for students we are requesting funding to ensure that each student at our institution will have access to equal educational resources. Our students come from disadvantaged backgrounds and we anticipate that enabling them to have access to all the

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modern educational tools, including access to technology, will give them the tools to become vital and active members of society. At this point we have fifty-nine students and we are meeting their educational needs. We have capacity for over three hundred, but cannot accept students who will have access to sub-par education or limited access to tools. It is both cost effective and educationally efficient to prepare our building now for our future needs. Breaking apart classrooms later to add components compromises the integrity of our educational plan and is extremely ineffective from a cost analysis perspective. We feel strongly that the video conferencing system will enrich our students experience and enable them to participate in the global community of students. The installation of the video conferencing system is a means of providing visual aids and stimulating education to our students. Drawing students into participating, while experiencing the classroom environment as engaging, ensures a low drop out rate.

We cannot achieve our goals and dreams for the children without the assistance of e-rate funding. We are prepared to do our part both covering our share of expenses and meeting our educational plan. We require the requested funding to make that happen. We are certain that with this requested funding we will make a major difference in these children's lives and their future. Please re-instate our funding for these FRNs so that we can move forward and expand our institution to meet the needs of needy students.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Avremel Kotlarsky  
Hebrew Academy







